

MoSPIN

“Missouri Statewide Parent Involvement Network”

An outreach service from the Missouri School for the Blind for families of children who are visually impaired, birth through 5 years old.

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What is MoSPIN?

Since 1987, Missouri School for the Blind has been providing parent education via a statewide home-based program to assist Missouri families with young children who are visually impaired. The program is known as MoSPIN (Missouri Statewide Parent Involvement Network).

What is included in MoSPIN services?

MoSPIN provides direct, in-home services to families throughout the state through specially trained “Parent Advisors”. This program of parent education is designed for families of children who are visually impaired and who may have other disabilities (developmental delay, hearing impairment, motor delays, etc.). What makes MoSPIN unique is its focus on the family rather than direct service to the child.

MoSPIN includes the following components:

- Home visits by Parent Advisors (Parents select one or two hour visits, not to exceed 4 hours per month.)
- Focus on parents as their child’s first and most important teacher
- Information to help parents understand their child’s visual diagnosis and learning characteristics
- Parent lessons on vision, communication, motor, hearing , or cognition from the INSITE curriculum
- Ongoing support and provision of resources to families

Who is eligible?

Families of children birth through 5 years old are eligible. Eligibility is based on a current eye report (within one year) with a visual diagnosis by an optometrist or an ophthalmologist. Parents agree to be the active learners in this home-based program.

Are services available statewide?

MoSPIN services are available to all eligible Missouri families.

What do MoSPIN families say about the program?

*Everything I do in and out of my home has been sharply influenced by information received through MoSPIN.

*MoSPIN has been an amazing program for us. We received emotional support, knowledge to use for our son, and skills to help him in being a happy, healthy, independent child.

*MoSPIN gave me tools to better understand and help my child.

*The program gave us confidence and knowledge to move forward as a family.

*I was scared and in shock when my daughter was diagnosed. My Parent Advisor was really there for me – she not only provided education, but empowered me and gave me courage to be the parent my daughter needs me to be for her to develop and learn.

Who do I contact for more information or to make a referral?

Parents are encouraged to contact:

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573-295-4669 (fax)
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